



Atty. Docket No.: 18396/2282 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Friedler, et al.
Serial No.: 10/775,679
Filed: February 10, 2004
Entitled: Stabilizing Molecule

Examiner: Rooke, A.B.

Group Art Unit: 1653

Conf. No.: 1897

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed November 16, 2004 in the above-noted U.S. patent application, Applicants hereby **ELECT**, with traverse, **Group V** (claims 24-29, 39, 40, 44 and 45, drawn to a stabilizing molecule) for prosecution on the merits.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's acknowledgment of the possibility for rejoinder of withdrawn process claims following a finding of allowable product claims.

Applicants traverse the restriction, particularly with respect to the restriction between Groups V and VI, on the basis that the search required for each of these groups requires searching for the common element of a stabilizing molecule which binds to a site which at least partially overlaps a functional site of a polypeptide. Given this commonality, Applicants submit that after performing the search necessary for the composition claims of Group V, the additional search necessary to cover the method of Group VI does not present an undue burden on the Examiner. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the restriction between these groups.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 18, 2005

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